

The Essay
ON

Consumption

*Respectfully submitted to the
Faculty of the Homoeopathic
MEDICAL COLLEGE
of Pennsylvania*

*For the Degree of Doctor of Medicine—
By*

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Phthisis

Ph^hthesis pulmonalis or Consump-
tion. This dreadful malady is
carrying off about one third of the
population; it is a disease that is
inherited from the parent to the Child,
and may be the result of a Scrophul^{ous}
diathesis, Syphilis, wet or cold, grief
or other Causes. There ^{are} ~~is~~ different forms
of this disease, and it often at-
tacks the different organs of the
human system; it may attack
the glands, the tract^{hea}~~les~~, and the
bronchial tubes, the lungs, the
pleura, the Stomach the liver,
the spleen, the alimentary canal,
or the intestines, and in many
cases the heart is involved in
this disease. When the glands

are attacked, and the disease
is acute, they become much en-
larged, and great inflammation
sets in, and ^{suppurations} ~~separations~~ and
sloughing takes place, and
there is great discharge of
matter or pus or ^{vitiated} ~~vitiated~~
mucus ^{as} ~~is~~ is the result; in
that case, the proper re-
medies would be Aconitum,
belladonna, Arsenicum ve-
ratum, and where the
case is chronic, Sulphur is
a good remedy. Where there
is a tickling cough in the
tract^{hea}~~les~~, dryconchum Toe-
lidum is a good remedy and
if the patient feels as though

The matter was torn from the
 throat & thus *tercodendron* is
 a good remedy. The ^{hea}trachea
 may become irritated with
 a tickling Cough, and if
 the irritation increases and
 the inflammation continues
 and extends to the bronchial
 tubes, they become irritated,
 and the cough increases, and
 if the inflammation still
 progresses, the mucous mem-
 brane will become deeply
 involved; and if the ^{suppuration} ~~sepa~~
~~tion~~ and sloughing still
 takes place, the parts will
 become weakened by cough-
 ing, and the small fibres

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or veins will become weak-
ened, and ~~hemorrhage~~^{hemorrhage} is
often the result; and in
that Case *Arnica Ham-
milla*^{elis} and *Aconite* are
proper remedies; where there
is great heat and cutting
pains in the bronch^{ice} or lungs
Conium is a good remedy;
and if the inflammation and
^{suppuration}~~separation~~ and sloughing con-
tinues, there will be a great
discharge of Green or Yellow
matter or ^{tiated}~~pitteated~~ mucus,
which will most generally
taste Sweet, and Sometimes
it tastes Sour or bitter, and Some-
times musty; the remedies

in that case are Calcaria Car-
 bonica, Phosphorus, ^mStannum
 Digitalis, and where there is
 a great drawing or tightness
 about the ^eSternum, nux Vomica
 is the proper remedy; where the
 lungs become involved there is
 generally great pain in the
 lungs and under the ^eSternum
 sharp and cutting pains
 extending through from the lungs
 to the Scapular bone, and gene-
 rally there is great ^minflammation,
 and ^{the}capillaries become congested,
 and small tubercles ^{are} formed in
 the lungs, and they grow and
 increase, and ^{suppuration}separation and
 sloughing ^{occur}, until they become

large ulcers or cavities in the lungs, and discharge, and the patient coughs and spits up a heavy yellow matter or pus, which sometimes smells very offensive. In some cases these cavities discharge, and where the edges are hard, and in some cases the lungs as if were become hepatised, but in other cases where the surrounding Parenchyma of the lungs continue to slough and soften and there are other cavities, they will burrow under one ~~to~~ another until the whole lung is destroyed. Where the lungs become badly congested, and

The patient cannot raise or cough
 up the matter, Sacksis, Phos-
 phorus, Sulphur, ^WStannum, Di-
 gitalis and Cascarilla are
 proper remedies, and in some
 cases there is a great deal of
 fever and night-sweats, and
 in most cases Hepar Sulphur-
 is, Mercurius, Belladonna,
 Bryonia, Carbo vegetabilis, Pul-
 satilla, Iodine, Silicea^{sea.}, and
 nuxvomica are the proper re-
 medies. Where the patient has
 a great difficulty in breath-
 ing, and the respiration is
 very short in moving about
 or ascending a flight of stairs,
 Sanocerasus is a great remedy.

in such cases where there is no
 cough seemingly but a mere
 low dry hacking cough without
 any expectoration, and in that
 case the symptoms are not so
 favorable, and generally soon
 terminate in death. The heart
 often becomes involved in this
 disease; there is a great palpi-
 tation and distress and the patient
 is greatly pressed for breath and
 cannot lay on his back or on his
 left side ~~or back~~; the proper reme-
 dies in such a case ^{are} ~~is~~ Aconitum,
 Arsenicum, causticum, Dulcamara,
 Antimonium Crudum, Arnica, and
 where there is a great deal of unea-
 sine and irritability of the system,

to calm and quiet the system I
 should give the patient Chamomilla,
 as it will have a very soothing ef-
 fect in quieting the nervous system.
 The Stomach often becomes very serious-
 ly involved in this disease, and it
 becomes badly chronic, and great
 inflammation and ^{suppuration} separation and
 sloughing of the mucous lining ~~or~~
 or follicles of the Stomach slough away
 and there is great discharge of matter
 or pus which is green or yellow, and
 sometimes it has a pinkish or rusty
 color and sometimes it has a dark
 grey color, and is very sickening to
 the taste, and the Epigastric nerve
 becomes affected and brings on
 great distress, drawing ^{retching} ~~retching~~ and

vomiting after waking in the morn-
 ing, and after eating, great weak-
 ness, faintness; and there is a great
 sinking feeling at the pit of the
 stomach, and sometimes the pa-
 tient vomits up yellow water and
 it tastes sour or bitter, and some-
 times it has a gray and at others
 a rusty color; the proper remedies
 then are Aconitum, Bryonia Hyos-
 cyamus, Arsenicum, Nux Vomica
 Antimonium, Veratrum, Rhus Ra-
 dicans, Specacuanha, Colocynthis, Can-
 tharis, and where there is great weak-
 ness and depression, and the patient
 seems to be exhausted, China is a
 proper remedy. The liver is an organ
 that is generally deeply involved, and

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where there is a disposition to tubercle
diathesis they often form cavities
in great numbers, and it often be-
comes badly congested, when these
ulcers soften and discharge it is
often secreted into the lungs and
coughed up by the patient, and
the discharge is so very great and
profuse, that it is often thought to
come from the lungs, and often is
the seat of the difficulty which con-
tinues in some cases for many years,
sapping, and prostrating all the vital
energies of the human system and
finally destroys the life of the patient.
The remedies ^{which are} that is the most suitable
in this case are Aconitum Bella-
donna, Chamomilla, China, Lact^{cris}~~aria~~

Nux Vomica, *Mercurius*, *Nitric Acid*,
Veratrum, & *Sulphur*. The Spleen is
 an organ that is often the seat of a
 great deal of weakness, pain and
 distress in the left side; in patients
 of tubercular diathesis, this organ
 often becomes thickly studded with
 tubercles, and they soften and slough
 away and the discharge is very
 great; the remedies are, *Arnica*, *Bry-*
onia, *China*, *Capsicum*, *Annuum*
Ignatia; *Nux Vomica*, *Kali Carbonicum*,
Iodine, & *Berberis*, ~~and~~ *Vulgaris*. The in-
 testines often become very badly ^{diseased} ~~anorectic~~
 in ^{Phthisis} ~~this disease~~ and there is generally
 a great sloughing of the mucous lining
 of the intestines which is called con-
 sumption of the bowels, and there is

generally a great deal of Diarrhoea
and sometimes the discharge is
bloody, and at other times it is slimy
and mucous, as though the lining
of the intestines were all sloughed
away, and in some cases the pa-
tient lies for many months, wasting
away until the tissue is entirely de-
stroyed, and the bones chafing through
the Episternis and forming large
ulcers, or what ^{are} ~~is~~ generally called
bed sores form on the spine and
acetabulum, causing great suffering
and pain, until death closes
the scene. The proper remedies for
these symptoms are Nux Vomica,
Sulphur, Cactus Vegetabilis, Colocy-
chis, Phosphorus, and when there

is a great waste of the system,
and a pale, cold, cadaverous coun-
tenance about the patient, Arseni-
cum is a proper remedy. Such
patients should have moderate
exercise, with pure fresh air, with
a good proper, nourishing diet.

Yours Respectfully
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